

Hawaii MARINE

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November 28, 2003

Rumsfeld approves alert notifications

Department of Defense

Press Release

Consistent with the Nov. 6 announcement about troop rotation, the Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld has approved the alert notifications of 4,228 Army, 1,290 Navy and 2,381 Air Force reserve component personnel for the second rotation of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF-2). This brings the total

Guard and Reserve personnel that have been alerted for OIF-2 to 66,531.

Yesterday, the secretary of defense also approved the mobilization of 9,900 Army, 1,290 Navy and 3,208 Air Force reserve component personnel for OIF-2. This brings the total Guard and Reserve personnel mobilized for OIF-2 to 56,504.

Further, the secretary of defense has authorized the Marine Corps to deploy an additional three battalions with corre-

sponding combat support and combat service support units for operations in support of OIF-2. These battalions will bring the total number of brigades for OIF-2 to 14. The decision to deploy these additional units is the result of further detail planning for OIF-2.

The secretary of defense also approved the alert notifications of 567



RUMSFELD

Army, 100 Marine Corps and five Air Force reserve component personnel for the fifth rotation of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF-5).

This brings the total Guard and Reserve personnel that have been alerted for OEF-5 to 4,603.

See DEFENSE, A-7

Protected seabirds need your assistance

Cpl. Jessica M. Mills

News Editor

From November until January, the juvenile Wedge-tailed Shearwater bird (a seabird), protected under the Hawaii Migratory Bird Act, will be in its migratory stage across Oahu. During this time period, the amount of stranded birds cases aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, will increase significantly, according to MCB Hawaii game wardens.

The Game Warden's Office has issued a warning to base residents, employees and patrons to not have any contact with these birds — no matter where they are found.

"People who come in contact with these birds are touching them and moving them, and it is extremely disruptive to their habitat," said Cpl. Jason Grimes, a game warden. "These are a very fragile species. The ones that we are picking up are in the juvenile stage, which means they are just learning how to fly. So, they will fly until they are exhausted and land wherever they have to."

Most of these birds have been found by the MCB Hawaii flight line and the housing areas adjacent to North Beach. Again, the game warden emphasizes to not touch them, move them or attempt to handle them in any way. The birds should be left where they have landed, because they are exhausted and do not need to move at all.

"Even if the bird is in immediate danger due to the area he landed, do not touch it!" said Sgt. Apollo Fisk, another game warden. "If you need to block traffic to protect it, then do so, and wait for our office to get to the scene. The birds are in

See SEABIRDS, A-8



Cpl. Jessica M. Mills

This two-week old Wedge-tailed Shearwater was found by Marines at Hangar 102 on the flight line aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. He was rescued by the MCB Hawaii Game Warden's Office.



Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle

Don't forget to tap!

Lance Cpl. Rody Fernandez, assistant multi-channel equipment operator for Headquarters Co., 3rd Marine Regiment, applies a "figure-four variation rear choke" to Lance Cpl. Israel Vega, a field radio operator also with Headquarters Co., 3rd Marines, as part of the unit's qualification requirement to earn the gray belt in the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program, during training aboard Kaneohe Bay, Wednesday.

O'Reilly puts K-Bay in 'No Spin Zone'

Sgt. Joe Lindsay

Community Relations Chief

Arguably the biggest name in broadcast journalism, Bill O'Reilly, turned MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, into his own private "No Spin Zone" Monday night during a visit to base as part of the Pacific War Memorial Lecture Series.

Bill O'Reilly, anchor/host of the highest-rated program on cable news, "The O'Reilly Factor," brought his unique brand of no-holds barred, shoot-from-the-hip style to a near-capacity crowd of Marines, Sailors and distinguished guests at the base theater. He more than lived up to the hype.

"He was great," said Lance Cpl.

Michael Cramer, a Headquarters Battalion, MCB Hawaii administration clerk, who served as O'Reilly's driver during the visit. "It was a rock-star atmosphere. It doesn't get much bigger than having Bill O'Reilly here. For all that, I couldn't get over how personable and accessible he was.

"The first thing Mr. O'Reilly wanted to do to was go to the video store to rent a copy of 'Finding Nemo' for his kids. That says a lot about what type of person he is."

Indeed, it is O'Reilly's self-styled Irish working-class attitude that has propelled him from humble beginnings growing up

See O'REILLY, A-8



Pfc. Michelle M. Dickson

Bill O'Reilly, the host of FOX's "The O'Reilly Factor," brought his unique viewpoints to MCB Hawaii, Monday night.

Chapel to bring cheer to special needs kids

Marine and Navy families are invited to join in the festivities

Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle

Combat Correspondent

The base chapel aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, is scheduled to host a Christmas Worship Service for military families with disabled children, Dec. 7, from 2 - 4 p.m.

"This event was scheduled so children with disabilities can celebrate and enjoy Christmas during an interactive worship service," said Petty Officer 3rd Class Joshua Kimble, religious programs coordinator for the base chapel. "In order for this to be successful, however, we need volunteers who are willing to donate their time and assist in various activities for the children's enjoyment."

Volunteers are needed to assist with face painting, food stands, and the live petting zoo. Children will have the opportunity to learn about many animals that include goats, pigs, sheep and dogs.

After the children learn about different animals, a chaplain will share historical accounts about the baby Jesus.

Kids will then be invited to sing "Happy Birthday" during the birthday party for Jesus, complete with cake.

Anyone who is interested in volunteering for this event can call Joshua Kimble at 257-3552, ext. 28.

MCBH News Briefs

BIKERS TO COLLECT TOYS IN BASE HOUSING, DEC. 6

The MCB Hawaii Motorcycle Association will be riding through family housing neighborhoods on the morning of Dec. 6 in hopes of receiving new, unwrapped toys from Kaneohe Bay military or family members who want to participate in this year's Toys-for-Tots program.

All you have to do is look for the motorcycle riders and walk out your front door and hand a new toy to a biker. As an alternative, you can go to the Marine Corps Annex where the bikers will end their charity ride and rally to receive more donations.

Look for more details about the ride route in next week's Hawaii Marine.

SANTA AND SPARKY SEEK TOYS, DEC. 6

Get your camera and listen up for Santa and "Sparky the Fire Safety Dog" on Dec. 6 at 8:30 a.m., when both will tour throughout the MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, housing area to collect new, unwrapped toys for the Toys for Tots program. Santa and Sparky will greet young and old at the Marine Corps Exchange Annex at 2 p.m.

CHAPEL HOSTS HOLIDAY EVENTS

•Saturday at 5 p.m.: The 3rd Annual God Bless our Youth Day, with special blessings for children, will coincide with Mass.

•Saturday at 6:30 p.m.: A special "Hanging of the Greens" advent worship service will be provided to inaugurate the season. The service will offer fellowship and chats about the origins of traditional Christmas activities (such as poinsettias, bells, evergreens, etc.). Further, participants can help decorate the chapel for the yuletide season and pipe in to Christmas carols. Pupus will follow worship.

•Dec. 6, 8:45 a.m. until noon: Join the MCB Hawaii community for "The Challenges of Advent," a time for personal reflection followed by lunch. Make reservations at 254-2148. Advent activities will be provided for children ages 4-plus.

Hawaii MARINE

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IN THE CG's MAIL BOX



BRIG. GEN.
MCABEE

I am writing about an issue that has hurt me financially and emotionally.

My husband and I are currently both active duty Marines. We have recently had a child and were blessed to be able to have family take care of him his first 2 1/2 months of life.

Our child had been on the Child Development Center [CDC] waiting list since October 2002. Since our family [that was helping out] returned to the mainland, we have had nothing but problems with alternate care while we wait for an opening at the CDC.

Our child spent one month at an uncertified child care provider's house, and we had to quickly remove him from that care for fear of personal injury. I had to take one week leave while my husband was on temporary additional duty/deployed to find another child care provider.

While looking for another provider, I put our son on the Family Child Care [FCC] list, [supposedly] Category 2 since we are dual active duty. I asked if there was a priority list for the CDC and was told "No," but not told why.

I found other "temporary" uncertified child care for our son, and he spent two weeks there.

After that, I was called with the name of a certified FCC provider who had an opening. I interviewed her and told her that she would be the third child care provider for our son, and let her know that he was a little fussy, but would be fine after he transitioned. [On the second of day of care,] the child care provider called me to say she could not care for our child any more because he was "too fussy."

I have since inter-

viewed the only two open certified FCC providers: one has five other children, and the other has had negative reports about her.

We are now stuck with no daycare for my child, and the only option that I have is to take more leave and/or put him in hourly care; which does not cover an entire workday.

Sir, this situation poses a huge strain on our family and both of our chains of command because of the immediate and unexpected time off. I believe that there should be a priority list for the CDC for single parents, and dual active duty members as well.

Our son is now 4 months old and has gone through a lot because the CDC does not have a priority list.

How many more times do I have to put him with a FCC just to have them quit? Each time we switch daycare providers (whether certified or not) my son suffers because he has to try to get used to a new person and a new environment.

Each time we have to switch daycare providers we lose money because, once they quit, they are not obligated to give us a refund on what we've already paid.

Two weeks ago I contacted Parents and Children Together (PACT) and was given a list of licensed family care providers that are located off base. There were only three available providers, and I interviewed two of them. After interviewing them, I decided I would never take my child to an off-base provider because the living conditions are too cluttered and very unsanitary.

I also contacted each of the other bases' CDCs and they all had the same waiting time. I contacted

Comment submitted by Staff Sgt. Toye M. Hickman, Headquarters Bn., MCB Hawaii

"Are we to put our child in substandard care or pay an ungodly amount of money (\$2,000 per month) to a nanny, just so my husband and I can go to work?"

two off-base CDCs, both of which had no available openings. As a last resort, I contacted a nanny service. The nanny service has nannies available but their fee is \$10 per hour, which is entirely too expensive for an active duty Marine.

These alternatives to FCC and CDC have not proved helpful.

Are we to put our child in substandard care or pay an ungodly amount of money (\$2,000 per month) to a nanny, just so my husband and I can go to work? There has to be another alternative.

Very respectfully
submitted,
Staff Sergeant Toye M.
Hickman

Dear Staff Sgt.
Hickman:

The commanding general asked me to respond to your email of Nov. 8, since your concern falls within my staffs' area of responsibility. The commanding general appreciates that you took the time to participate in the "CG Mail" program.

One of our primary goals aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii is to provide families with quality, affordable child-care in a certified care environment. I am aware, however, that a need exists to provide more infant care services than what is currently offered. To this end, I have requested construction funding to mitigate this critical shortfall.

In the meantime, we are developing more Family Child Care (FCC) homes. During the last six months, 11 new FCC homes were certified, 30 in all during the past year.

Further, I am happy to inform you that five new providers are currently

undergoing certification, a process that includes carrying liability insurance, background checks, more than 60 hours of training, safety and preventive medicine, Federal Fire Department, and FCC staff monthly inspections.

These requirements help to ensure a safe and secure environment for children. However, this comprehensive process takes time.

I would also like to take this opportunity to explain the difference between the CDC Preference List and the Unmet Demand Waiting List. Many of our parents prefer to have their infants placed in the Child Development Center as their first priority. Due to limited space for infants at the CDC, parents are permitted to place their names on the CDC Preference List prior to the birth of their child.

Your child has been on this list since Oct. 28, 2002, and is currently number 16. When the CDC is unavailable, and all other options have been exhausted, we establish the Unmet Demand list, which is prioritized with single parent, active duty military and dual active duty military comprising the top two priorities.

With the anticipated certification of more FCC homes, I believe the Unmet Demand list will be eliminated.

I appreciate your thoughtful comments and concerns. If I can be of any additional assistance, please feel free to contact me at 254-7540, and again thank you for taking the time to participate in the "CG Mail" program.

Sincerely,
Mr. William B. Lindsey
Assistant Chief of Staff
Marine Corps
Community Services



MATTHEWS

HMH-463 posts new commander



Lieutenant Col. H. Ben Matthews II assumed command of Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 463 from Lt. Col Scott E. Kerchner, Nov. 20. Matthews was previously the director of the Iraq Coalition Coordination Center at U.S. Central Command. Kerchner will be the new executive officer for Marine Aircraft Group 24.



KERCHNER



Pfc. Michelle M. Dickson

A Marine from Combat Service Support Group 3 guards the perimeter with his M249 Squad Automatic Weapon during training in the Kahukus.

CSSG-3 seizes control of Kahuku Training Area

Pfc. Michelle M. Dickson
Combat Correspondent

KAHUKU TRAINING AREA — Marines with Maintenance Co., Combat Service Support Group 3, MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, took part in five days of training here from Nov. 17 - 21. They defended themselves in high-stressed, combat situations and still completed the mission at hand.

The Group Marines responded to situations that required quick decisions while defending their perimeter. Topics covered included training with vehicle checkpoint procedures, security and defending perimeters for combat service support areas (CSSA), and security patrols and maintenance contact team convoy operations.

The first three days of training consisted of classes and practical application. Day one involved land navigation, day two was mainly patrolling, and day three mostly convoy operations and night driving. Days four and five challenged the Marines’ skills with 48 hours of tactical operations. The Group had to pull together everything it had learned. The two-day test of training proved CSSG-3 Marines are prepared for whatever circumstances that could potentially arise.

During the night convoy, Group Marines experienced everything from ambushes and sniper fire, to roadblocks and heavy machinegun fire.

“The Marines responded well to the attacks,” said Maj. Patrick Wall, commanding officer of Maintenance Co. “They performed really well at stopping and returning fire. Keeping communica-



Pfc. Michelle M. Dickson

Marines from CSSG-3 patrol the perimeter while looking for the enemy which was pushing in from all sides of their camp.

tions up was the only thing they started out shaky at.”

During training, the Group’s staff noncommissioned officers played the part of the enemy; therefore, if a Marine wasn’t wearing a flak jacket and a Kevlar, he was dangerous. Wall took part as an enemy; when he attempted to come into the CSSA, he was stopped immediately.

“I was very impressed with how they took me in,” said Wall. “They used their heads and went through the procedures well.”

The Marines handled their hostage with force, but also with respect.

“All they have to do is apply what they’ve learned in real combat situations,” said Gunnery Sgt. Micheal Golden, the company gunnery sergeant. “They got the job done, and still treated the hostage with dignity.”

The five days of training promoted small-unit leadership and allowed the Marines to teach and apply the lessons

they had learned.

“All the Marines did what they had to do and learned the appropriate techniques to be successful out here in the field,” said Golden. “The Marines really love getting out there, since we don’t get a chance to get into the field as much as we would like to. But, you never can get in the field enough.”

The most difficult part of the training, said CSSG-3 Marines, was the fact that they only had five days to cover all topics. Yet, certain subjects are difficult to grasp completely, and especially in such a limited amount of time.

“We obviously hope to always come out more; the Marines learn a lot from training, and they enjoy it too,” said Golden.

The Marines also have future training schedules set up to further prepare them for combat situations. Until the next time, they will apply the training they received in the Kahukus Training Areas, and will add onto it as time goes by.

Fact File

M249 Squad Automatic Weapon

Primary function: Hand-held combat machinegun
Length: 40.87 inches (103.81 centimeters)

Weight:
With bipod and tools: 15.16 pounds
200-round box magazine: 6.92 pounds
30-round magazine: 1.07 pounds
Bore diameter: 5.56mm (.233 inches)

Maximum effective range: 3281 feet (1000 meters) for an area target
Maximum range: 2.23 miles

Rates of fire:
Cyclic: 725 rounds per minute
Sustained: 85 rounds per minute
Unit Replacement Cost: \$4,087

Features: The Squad Automatic Weapon, or 5.56mm M249, is an individually portable, gas-operated, magazine or disintegrating metallic link-belt fed, light machinegun with fixed head-space and quick change barrel features. The M249 engages point targets out to 800 meters, firing the improved NATO standard 5.56mm cartridge. The SAW forms the basis of firepower for the fire team. The gunner has the option of using 30-round M16 magazines or linked ammunition from pre-loaded 200-round plastic magazines. The gunner’s basic load is 600 rounds of linked ammunition.

Promotion sparks emotion in Camp Smith Marine

Lance Cpl. Jared M. Plotts
Marine Forces Pacific

CAMP H. M. SMITH — On any given day, choices can pass by without us so much as a glance. Some see an opportunity arise and take a chance; others suffer through each workweek blind, looking for meaning in a cup of coffee and horribly shallow e-mails about the opposite sex.

Staff Sgt. Tonya M. Longbine, U.S.

Marine Corps Forces Pacific security staff noncommissioned officer in charge, doesn’t drink coffee, nor does she forward inept e-mails to 10 of her closest work buddies. She saw her chance for an advanced promotion and took it.

According to the Marine Corps Promotion Manual section on accelerated promotions, the program is designed to provide Marine sergeants and staff sergeants, who are below the cutoff for eligibility due to their pay entry base

date or date of rank, consideration for a promotion, based solely on their fitness report input.

Longbine came off active duty in June 2000, after serving three years as a computer tech at MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. She was assigned to the Inactive Regular Reserve before being called up as an Individual Mobile Augmentee for MarForPac in March 2002.

She was only a sergeant for 2 1/2 years before getting promoted at the

beginning of this month. She is in charge of four Marines and ensures the office runs as smoothly as possible.

“I would characterize her as a self-starter. She is a ‘take-charge’ kind of Marine,” said Mr. Gary K. Hanson, command security manager, MarForPac, “the kind that gets things done before you have to tell her.”

Hanson is Longbine’s officer in

*See **Longbine A-9***

Word on the Street

“What are your holiday shopping plans?”



“I don’t have plans. My family is in Philadelphia and we had Christmas before I got here.”

Staff Sgt. Robert Gdowik
Operations chief
Charlie Battery, 1/12



“I’m going shopping after Christmas.”

Veronica Wilson
Family member



“...To buy a couple of ooh-rah things and send them home.”

Lance Cpl. Victor Pena
Ordnance technician
HMT-301



“I’ve already done all my holiday shopping.”

Kimberly Peters
Family member



“...To beat the crowds on the day after Thanksgiving.”

Lesley Clemons
Family member

Warfighting solutions

MOUT needs high-tech upgrades

Cpl. Luis R. Agostini
Marine Forces Pacific

Commanders throughout the Marine Corps shared their thoughts, concerns and suggestions on improving Marines’ chances of success in urban maneuver warfare during a conference at the Officers’ Club, MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Nov. 18 - 20.

The Marine Forces Pacific Marine Experimentation Center, a group whose vision and focus are to explore Naval warfighting solutions by leveraging the efforts of Department of Defense labs and centers, industry and academia, hosted the conference.

In the urban maneuver workshop, commanders from 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, 3rd Marine Air Wing, 3rd Marine Division, the Office of Naval Research and the Marine Corps Warfighting Lab discussed some of the challenges in conducting military operations in the urban environment or MOUT.

Participants agreed that one of the major shortfalls of MOUT is that the urban environment reduces the technological advantage, making precision and direct fire even more important in urban warfare.

Subject matter experts explained that the nature of the MOUT environment is in — not on — the terrain. This makes it difficult to allow operational pauses, and negates the U.S. forces’ technological advantage.

Condors unite with Skinny Dragons

Lt. j.g. Justin Hane
Patrol Squadron 4

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — Combat Aircrew (CAC) 5 of Patrol Squadron (VP) 64 recently completed a two-week detachment to Misawa Air Base, Japan. The aircrew is the third of six currently scheduled to conduct detachments to the 7th Fleet Area of Responsibility (AOR).

The “Condors” of VP-64 are a Naval Reserve squadron from the Joint Reserve Base, Willow Grove, Penn., and they quickly integrated themselves into the daily schedule. Their detachments augmented the “Skinny Dragons” of VP-4 by flying Task Force (CTF) 72 missions while serving their annual Reserve active duty commitment.

The Condors began their integration with VP-4 in mid-October of 2003. They will rotate six of their 11 crews to Japan on two-week cycles throughout the holiday season. Its CAC-5 made a two-day, 21-hour reposition trip from Willow Grove to Elmendorf, Alaska, continuing on to Misawa with newly updated Block Modification

See *VP-64, A-9*

The top six priority recommendations for improved capabilities were command and control, intelligence, fires, maneuver, force protection and logistics.

Some of the suggested capabilities to improve fighting on the streets of foreign lands included “see-through” technology, including sensors, lightweight helmets with integrated sensors and netted sensor grids, weapons optimized for MOUT, enhanced urban cover and concealment, and decision support and nodal analysis tools.

Another concern was improving communications beyond the line of sight. As it stands right now, the joint tactical radio system wideband network waveform currently used will not pass sufficient data through buildings.

Some recommendations to improve communications in a MOUT environment included wireless, cellular, data capable wire systems and scalable local area network lines.

Constant training in the MOUT environment, whether conducted in the form of war games, simulated rehearsals or training simulations, is paramount in order to enhance decision support tools, agreed the various commanders.

Although all unit commanders shared recommendations for improving capabilities in the MOUT environment, based on personal experiences, the recommendations only implied capability, not requirements, meaning that the recommendations do not translate into new program starts.



Cpl. Zachary A. Crawford

A vehicle crew chief with Charlie Co., 2nd Assault Amphibian Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, takes on operating forces through a doorway during MOUT training in Fort A.P. Hill, Va.

SALUTES

Headquarters Battalion, MCB Hawaii

Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medals

Sgt. Nathan A. Fisk
Sgt. Frederick D. Henry
Sgt. Lucas E. Lavadour

Letter of Appreciation

Sgt. Kaila M. Sparkman

Certificate of Commendation

Sgt. Wayne T. Twaddell

Corporal's Course 2-04 Honor Graduate

Cpl. Robert E. Wren Jr.
3rd Radio Bn.

Corporal's Course 2-04 Gung Ho Award

Cpl. Jeremy T. Jackson
1st Bn., 12th Marine
Regiment



(Editor's Note: Per the commanding general of MCB Hawaii, those convicted of DUIs or drug-related offenses shall be publicized in the Hawaii Marine newspaper.)

- Lance Cpl. Brandon E. Nagel of Marine Aviation

Logistics Squadron 24 was taken into custody Sunday for driving under the influence with a blood alcohol content of 0.180 percent, when he was using someone else's vehicle. His license was suspended on Monday.



DUIs are career killers

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reminds that impaired driving is not merely a traffic offense. Don't be fooled. Impaired driving is no accident nor is it a victimless crime.

Too many people still don't understand that alcohol, drugs and driving don't mix. If you also find this too hard to figure out when you've had too many drinks to drive, don't risk it. If you're feeling "buzzed," you are most likely impaired. And, if you drive impaired, law enforcement will arrest you.

You drink & drive. YOU LOSE

TO DO LIST

Before any activity that involves alcohol:
•Plan ahead.

- Choose a sober designated driver.
- Take mass transit or a taxicab, or ask a friend to drive you home if you didn't plan in advance.

- Spend the night where the activity is being held.
- Celebrate responsibly.
- Report impaired drivers to law enforcement.

COURT MARTIAL



(Editor's Note: The Legal Services Center, MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, sent notification of the following Marine of punishment awarded in the following court martial.)

•Lance Cpl. Mark A. Mayer of 3rd Marine Regiment was convicted at a Special Court Martial for being in possession of drug paraphernalia and leaving the limits of MCB Hawaii while on pretrial confinement, which was in violation of Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice; for wrongfully distributing and using some amounts of methamphetamine and for possession of marijuana, which were in violation of Article 112a. Mayer was awarded confinement of 11 months, forfeiture of \$760 pay per month (for 11 months), a reduction to the pay grade of E-1, and a Bad Conduct Discharge.



Juvenile diabetes strikes one child.
Every hour.



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or visit www.jdrf.org

Holiday season means busier post offices

Pfc.
Michelle M. Dickson
Combat Correspondent

With the Christmas holidays very quickly approaching, many Marines, Sailors and their families aboard MCB Hawaii, may want to send parcels home to their families as they cannot be with them during this festive season.

The Kaneohe Bay post office has some recommendations to ensure timely arrival of items.

Regardless of where your packages are going, the post office recommends that they be sent no later than Dec. 11 to arrive on time. If for some reason that date cannot be met, send parcels by Federal Express before Dec. 19. Express mail, the quickest delivery method, takes about three days to arrive at its final destination from Hawaii.

When packaging any item, use a good paper-board or corrugated fiber-board box. Ensure that there is enough space in the box to add plenty of cushioning so that the item isn't crushed.

If using an old box, make sure to scratch out all old addresses with a black marker or cover them with adhesive labels. Use clear or brown packaging tape, and seal the seams of boxes with at least two-inch wide tape.

As an extra safety precaution, write and provide the "to" address inside your package, to ensure a definite delivery if the package is damaged in shipment.

Speed of delivery is greatly affected by the accuracy of the address on the parcel. Therefore, military addresses should show grade, full name, Personal Services Center number, and unit number or ship name.

Further, ensure that all international mail contains a Customs form, either attached to or inside the package.



Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle

The new post office on Mokapu Rd. was officially opened Wednesday by Congressman Ed Case, Reverend David K. Kaupu, and Brigadier Gen. Jerry C. McAbee and is set for the busy holiday season.

The MCB Hawaii Post Office on Mokapu will begin new holiday hours of operation Dec. 8 through 23. Holiday hours will be Monday thru Friday, 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.; Saturdays, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.; and Sundays, closed.

Holiday Mail Deadlines

Military mail addressed to:	First Class Mail	Priority Mail	Parcel Airlift Mail	Space Available Mail
APO/FPO, AE, ZIPS 090-099	Dec. 11	Dec. 11	Dec. 4	Nov. 28
APO/FPO, AE, ZIPS 340	Dec. 11	Dec. 11	Dec. 4	Nov. 28
APO/FPO, AE, ZIPS 962-966	Dec. 11	Dec. 11	Dec. 4	Nov. 28

DEFENSE, From A-1

The secretary also approved the mobilization of 2,955 Army, 100 Marines and five Air Force reserve personnel for OEF-5. A total of 6,906 Guard and Reserve personnel have been mobilized for OEF-5.

This announcement is intended to foster the orderly rotation of troops into and out of the Central Command. This rotation is designed to allow for the maximum overlap between forces currently deployed and replacement units. This plan provides the capabilities required for the missions defined by the combatant commander.

The Ready Reserve includes members of both the Reserves and National Guard. Deploying Reserve Component soldiers can expect to be mobilized for up to 18 months and be in theater for up to 12 months. Reserve Component Marines can expect to be mobilized for up to one year and be in theater for up to seven months.

O'REILLY: Journalist gives MCB Hawaii a piece of his own mind

in Long Island to the top of the journalistic world. “He is a man of integrity, principals and moral courage,” said Brig. Gen. Jerry C. McAbee, MCB Hawaii commanding general, as he introduced O’Reilly to the crowd. “The one thing I think says the most about his character is that his best friends are guys he went to first grade with.” During his speaking engagement, O’Reilly touched on a number of topics, including the war in Iraq, terrorism, leadership and of course, politics. He then devoted a significant amount of time to holding a question and answer session, which greatly impressed a number of those in attendance and gave credence to McAbee’s assertion that “he is not afraid to take a position and stick to it.” For his part, O’Reilly said he was impressed with all the Marines and Sailors he came into contact with aboard MCB Hawaii.

BIRDS: Game warden asks for assistance

From A-1

more danger if they are handled.” Also, do not give the Shearwaters any water or food whatsoever; this includes freshwater. These seabirds have special eating habits, and any change in their diet can harm or kill them. Due to the fragile nature of these birds, they can be injured very easily. The State of Hawaii fines anyone who injures the Wedge-tailed Shearwater — no matter what the scenario. “Our base is quite unique,” said Grimes. “Kaneohe Bay has one of the highest populations of protected species on Hawaii, including Shearwaters, Booby Birds, Hawaiian Stilts, Terrens and much more, which is why it is so important that we all practice awareness and protect these species.” Once the game warden picks up the juvenile Shearwaters, they are transferred to Sea Life Park in Waimanalo for rehabilitation, and then released back into the wild. If you do find a Wedge-tailed Shearwater that has landed somewhere in your vicinity, the game warden asks that you positively identify the bird by the picture below and call the Game Wardens’ Office at 257-1821, or the Environmental Protection and Compliance Department at 257-6920.



Cpl. Jessica M. Mills

If you see one of these Wedge-Tailed Shearwaters, do not have contact with it. Call the Game Wardens’ Office.

“My wife was remarking how nice everybody is, and they don’t know her,” commented O’Reilly. “Me, everybody runs in horror and flees; but her, she’s just a regular person and everybody has been wonderful to her. I have a 4-year-old and a little baby, and when the baby cries nobody complains. “It [the base] is a very nice and disciplined atmosphere, and we enjoyed our time here.” O’Reilly also said he had a message he wanted to relay to the Marines and Sailors aboard MCB Hawaii. “I wish all the Marines and Sailors here a Happy Thanksgiving,” said O’Reilly. “Stay safe. We need you guys.”



Cpl. Glenna Dickson

Bill O'Reilly takes a moment to speak with Lt. Gen. Wallace Gregson, commanding general of Marine Forces Pacific, before he takes his place on stage.

VP-64, From A-4

Update Program (BMUP) aircraft.

Patrol Squadron 64 has two Update II aircraft and four BMUP aircraft. The BMUP aircraft integrates the latest technology with an airframe that has served as the backbone of maritime surveillance and antisubmarine warfare for more than 40 years.

The last of 10 BMUP aircraft was delivered in late July and boasted complex modern avionics systems, a new acoustic processor, a new digital tactical computer, flat panel displays, touch screen entry panels, enhanced online weapons controls and an upgraded electronic support measures system.

The 7th Fleet AOR is new for many of VP-64’s squadron members. Since the squadron is based on the east coast of the United States, the Condors are usually tasked with operations in the Caribbean for counter narcotic operations. The detachment provides the Condors a great opportunity to see a new operational area and share their east coast perspective. It also allowed the Skinny Dragons” to get acquainted with the new BMUP aircraft.

Typical of many Reserve aircrews, the members of CAC-5 come from all walks of life. Some of them are active reservists who are full-time members of the squadron, officially designated as Full Time Support (FTS), but more commonly known as Training and Administration of Reservists.

Approximately 44 percent of the squadron is comprised of FTS members, while the others are designated

as Selective Reservists, who are part-time reservists that have full-time civilian jobs and participate in squadron drill periods and special detachments, as they are needed.

The squadron is also comprised of personnel with colorful arrays of backgrounds, and from many different states in the North Eastern United States. Home states include Virginia, Pennsylvania, Delaware, New York, Ohio, Washington, D.C., and Maryland.

The wide variety of civilian jobs include commercial airline pilots, members of the Naval Air Systems Command, civilian aviation mechanics, and building contractors, to name a few. And, the commanding officer, Cmdr. Steve R. Speed, is a city council member who works in real estate in addition to his duties as the C.O.

The Condors must maintain all the same currency requirements as their active duty Navy counterparts, as well to their everyday civilian jobs.

Each year, VP-64 aircrews complete two detachments from the squadron (lasting two weeks each), as well as monthly requirements to help maintain currency.

As well as bringing a variety of skills, experiences, and fresh perspectives to the Skinny Dragons when VP-4 served with its sister squadron in Japan, CAC-5 took the opportunity to hone its skills while conducting real-world operations.

The crew showed that not only are they capable as operators, but also they can easily and fully integrate into an active duty squadron — proving Reservists remain a valuable asset to the Navy.



Pfc. Michelle M. Dickson

Stay safe this holiday

During a scheduled traffic checkpoint for the Click It or Ticket Program aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, 1st Lt. Rodrigo Cantu, the assistant operations officer for the Military Police Dept., issues a ticket to two Marines on Monday for not wearing their safety belts while driving.

Throughout this Thanksgiving weekend, the Commandant of the Marine Corps General M. W. Hagee reminds all military and their family members to ensure that risk management is included in their holiday plans.

That means not only foregoing alcohol when they are driving, but also watching out for irresponsible people who mix drinking and driving.

“Over the past year, our Corps has

lost an unacceptable number of Marines in preventable mishaps,” said the Commandant. “The losses from these mishaps are as tragic as those suffered from combat, and although the majority of Marines have returned safely from Operation Iraqi Freedom, the risk is even higher now.”

According to the general, “statistically, three to six months after returning from deployment, Marines are at almost twice the risk of a vehicle-related death,” and “For many, this Thanksgiving falls in that time frame.”

Across the United States, the “Click It or Ticket” campaign is underway. The Commandant emphasizes that “seat-belt use not only makes good sense in managing risk, it’s the law!”

Longbine, From A-3

charge, stationed at Camp Smith since 1994.

“I have recommended many Marines for accelerated promotions. This is the first time it has worked,” said Hanson.

Longbine’s fitness report was submitted for the reserve promotion board, along with her peers’. The advanced promotion is a one-time shot for the few Marines who get the opportunity.

“They look at my report just like everyone else’s,” said Longbine. “The only difference is for every category evaluated, it has to be justified with comments.”

Longbine credits her work ethic to the way she was raised, and said it has carried over into the Corps.

“I hardly ever leave this office for lunch. I try to be the first one here and the last one gone. That’s just how I’ve always been,” said Longbine.

According to her fellow co-workers, Longbine encompasses everything it takes to be a Marine staff NCO.

“I have worked alongside and under Staff Sergeant Longbine for the past two years,” said Cpl. Jacob A. Isberner, personnel security noncommissioned officer. “She has been a transcendent NCO, and I think she will make a pre-eminent staff NCO. She is also a friend.”

“Anything I expect my Marines to do, I try to do that and more,” said Longbine. “[However, this accelerated promotion] is way above any award. I didn’t expect this at all.”

Still wanting to excel even more, Longbine is not resting on her laurels. Despite having two bad knees, she hopes to put in a package for the rigorous Marine Corps OCS (Officer Candidate School) program.